Office of the City Manager Letter to Commission No. 061-2004



Date: March 16, 2004

To:

Mayor David Dermer and

Members of the City Commission

From:

Jorge M. Gonzalez

City Manager

Subject:

CLOSURE OF CLUB HONEY FOR UNDERAGE DRINKING

This Letter to the Commission is to provide information on the recent closure of Club Honey located at 645 Washington Avenue. Underage persons have been able to obtain alcoholic beverages at this location in violation of state law. This type of underage drinking continues to be a contributing factor to the number of disturbances, assaults, and vehicles cruising in the southern part of the Entertainment District.

To combat this situation, the Strategic Investigations Unit conducted an enforcement action at Club Honey on Sunday March 14, 2004. During this operation, approximately 96 underage patrons were identified inside the club. As a result of this, eight (8) individuals were taken into custody including four (4) bartenders, the manager, the doorman, and two (2) others outside for disorderly conduct. The club was subsequently closed. City of Miami Beach Code Compliance officers were also present and issued the club a citation. Club Honey has received several Code citations for similar violations.

In addition to continuing to work closely with ABT and Code Compliance to coordinate stringent enforcement action, the Miami Beach Police Department will also pursue avenues to take action against Club Honey's operational and liquor licenses.

JMG/D/D/tr

c: Donald W. De Lucca Chief of Police

F:\POLI\ADMI\\$CHI\2004\LTC Club Honey.doc